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4- Part 3 – Let Us Learn About the Bahrain Revolution, Learn and Be Warned ### AI Analysis by Dhafer Hamad Al-Zayani



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Part 3 – Let Us Learn About the Bahrain Revolution, Learn and Be
Warned

AI Analysis by Dhafer Hamad Al-Zayani

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Bahrain After February 14, 2011

Following the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt that shocked the world, the Safavid forces — backed by Tehran — sought to gain Arab sympathy through a staged "reform revolution" in Bahrain. They worked hard to win over the Sunni street by exploiting economic hardships, rallying under the slogan: ****"Neither Sunni nor Shia — we are all one nation."****

They succeeded in drawing many poor Sunnis into their movement, which outwardly called only for "system reform." Meanwhile, Iranian-backed satellite channels worked to sow division among Bahrain's Sunnis through warnings about naturalized citizens, mercenaries, and loyalists.

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The Escalation

When the first casualty fell, radicals seized the moment to raise the ceiling of demands – from reform to the establishment of a ****Shia Islamic Republic.****

The King of Bahrain publicly apologized and ordered an investigation committee. The Crown Prince called for calm and dialogue, troops were withdrawn, and all prisoners were released.

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The opposition, overcome with political arrogance and believing the regime's fall was imminent, intensified their marches. They then:

- ****Occupied Salmaniya Hospital**** – Bahrain's largest – taking Sunni doctors hostage and turning it into an operations room for the sectarian revolution



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- Required ****Sunni patients to sign declarations**** against the government before receiving treatment

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- Security forces — many of Shia background — disappeared from their posts

- Around ****40 Shia villages**** mobilized across Bahrain

- A Sunni woman was attacked and an elderly man was killed

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- Marchers advanced toward the ****Royal Palace**** to force the Sunni ruler to flee

Bahrain was brought to a ****complete standstill**** — shops, schools, health centers, and ministries all closed; oil exports halted; the airport shut down.

Buses carrying groups of "revolutionaries" headed to the ****University of Bahrain****, targeting Sunni students who had opposed the movement.

AI Analysis

****1. Manipulation of Revolutionary Discourse:****

The movement began with simple reform slogans to attract broad support, gradually revealing its true goal — complete regime change in favor of one sectarian group. This is a classic form of psychological and media manipulation.

****2. Psychological Warfare:****

Economic grievances were deliberately weaponized against the government, demonstrating that the opposition sought not just social reform but the dismantling of Bahraini social unity through sectarian fault lines.

****3. Seizure of Institutions:****

Occupying the hospital and taking doctors hostage shows the deliberate politicization of neutral institutions – transforming places of healing into tools of sectarian conflict.

****4. Targeting Youth:****

Directing violence toward Sunni university students reflects a strategy to fracture Bahraini society at its youngest and most formative level.

****5. Economic Paralysis:****

Shutting down the airport and halting oil exports placed the government under severe economic pressure, forcing a defensive posture and limiting its options for response.

****6. Religion as a Military Tool:****

The merging of religious authority with military command structures meant that every follower became part of a coordinated political and

sectarian movement — with spiritual leaders effectively serving as military commanders.

****7. Iranian Influence:****

External involvement amplified concerns about the exploitation of internal crises for regional power expansion — a recurring pattern across the broader Middle East.

****Summary:****

What began as a call for reform transformed into a full-scale sectarian conflict, fought simultaneously on political, psychological, and media fronts. The article presents the Bahrain uprising not as a spontaneous social movement, but as a carefully orchestrated plan to destabilize Sunni governance and achieve long-term regional objectives.

To be continued — Part 4

> **"I affirm from the outset that I have no personal animosity toward our honorable Shia brothers as individuals. My strong objection stems entirely from my faith as a member of Ahl al-Sunna wal-Jama'a — a red line that cannot be crossed. Targeting our Islamic symbols, foremost the honor of the Prophet ﷺ, his pure wives, and his noble companions, is something we cannot accept. As for private religious rituals, we do not interfere — as long as they do not become tools to undermine our sanctities or threaten our national security and identity."**

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> — ****Dhafer Hamad Al-Zayani****

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DHAFER ALZAYANI APRIL 28, 2026

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